

August 1, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Site for Detroit's 36th District Court prelims is changing

"[Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Michael Talbot,] appointed to fix the finances of a troubled Detroit court, is making changes to the way some key court hearings take place. Starting Thursday, 36th District Court's preliminary hearings will be at the nearby Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, which houses the Wayne County Circuit Court's criminal division."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Associated Press: Site for 36th District Court prelims is changing

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press and WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit.

The MiLW Blog: 36th District Court preliminary exams relocated to Murphy Hall of Justice

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Old Mound Correctional Facility opens as central lockup in Detroit

"Under an inter-agency deal with the city of Detroit and the state of Michigan, the former Mound Correctional Facility will reopen Thursday to be used as a central lockup in the city.... It was also noted at the press conference that starting Thursday, preliminary hearings will be switched from 36th District Court to the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, which houses the Wayne County Circuit Court criminal division. The switch is expected to increase safety while decreasing the time involved in transporting inmates from jail."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

MLive.com: Reopening of state prison as Detroit lockup will put more than 40 officers

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Port Huron judge clears 6 in pot shop probe

"A judge in Port Huron has dismissed charges against six people linked to medical marijuana dispensaries, saying it wasn't clear the pot shops were illegal until the Michigan Supreme Court ruled earlier this year. The judge says the six couldn't have known the Supreme Court would bar the sale of medical marijuana through shops. They'd been ordered to stand trial before the court made a decision in February."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Associated Press: 6 cleared by Port Huron judge in pot shop probe

[Full story](#)

The Times Herald/Port Huron: Judge dismisses clinic charges

[Full story](#)

**** The article is available by subscription only.**

Associated Press: Stubborn juror in Grand Rapids gets night in jail

"A man apparently unhappy that he was picked as a juror has spent a night in jail after refusing to serve in Grand Rapids federal court. Steven Freed was found in contempt of court. He was released from jail

Wednesday, but he's not off the hook. U.S. District Judge Robert Jonker ordered Freed to attend the trial, which could last 3 weeks."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune, the Holland Sentinel, the Macomb Daily, the Oakland Press and WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit.

Grand Rapids Press: Juror jailed after refusing to take oath in federal court; judge calls act unprecedented

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: Stubborn juror in Shayla Johnson federal case gets night in jail

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Oh, the things people do to get out of jury duty ...

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Prosecutors lose again in perfume theft case

"The Michigan Supreme Court says a lower court made the right call in overturning the conviction of a woman accused of stealing a bottle of perfume at a Detroit-area store. A jury convicted Chandra Smith-Anthony of larceny from a person. That person in the jury's view was a Macy's detective who caught her at a Southfield store in 2010."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

Grand Haven Tribune: Election case twist: One Grand Haven man lost his chance to become a judge, and another faces possible jail time on election forgery charges

"Both men say their association with the other was a mistake. Chris Houghtaling, an attorney and president of the Grand Haven school board, said he is continuing to cooperate with authorities as the case against his former associate, Brandon Hall, moves through the court system."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Holland Sentinel: Failed 58th District Court election bid pits former candidate against associate in signature forgery case

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Judge Wendell Miles Obituary

"MILES, WENDELL A. Judge Wendell A. Miles, aged 97, of Grand Rapids, died at Butterworth Hospital on July 31, 2013. Services are pending."

[Full story](#)

The Holland Sentinel: Penal fines will provide more than \$800,000 to Ottawa County libraries

"Did you pay your speeding ticket? The library thanks you. Some of the money courts collect for fines from criminal violations and civil infractions goes to libraries.... The Michigan State Constitution of 1963, requires all penalties collected for violations of the state penal laws be divided into court costs, statutory fees and penal fees."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Court denies appeal in Macomb County molestation case

"The state Court of Appeals recently upheld the conviction of a 38-year-old man who is serving 25 to 40 years in prison for molesting an 11-year-old girl. Mark McQueen was convicted by a Macomb County jury

in July 2011 of one count of first-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim under age 13, which carries a mandatory minimum term of 25 years.”

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Countdown begins for Gratiot Cruise

“... This year’s grand marshal is Michigan Supreme Court Justice David Viviano, a former Macomb County Circuit Court judge who grew up in Clinton Township. He will be joined by family members including his father, former Macomb County Judge Antonio Viviano, as he rides in the VIP parade that kicks off Sunday’s cruise.”

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: State, unions open contract talks; right-to-work at issue

“The state of Michigan opens negotiations [Wednesday] with employee unions, and one of the big questions is how the state’s new right-to-work law will affect the bargaining.... The state and public employee unions are already in court on the same question. A ruling could come anytime from the Michigan Court of Appeals.”

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Detroit bankruptcy fallout: A \$2.2M verdict is put on hold

“The automatic stay in bankruptcy cases is a very handy thing, especially when someone has a \$2.2 million verdict in hand and the losing-party-soon-to-be debtor’s prospects on appeal appear bleak. Just ask the city of Detroit.... It was looking pretty good for [Michael] Beydoun when the city filed on July 1 for leave to appeal in the Michigan Supreme Court. But it looked even better for the city, at least in the interim, when it filed for Chapter 9 protection on the afternoon of July 18.”

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: 'Nut-free' elementary school decision upheld by Michigan Court of Appeals

“A Michigan Court of Appeals panel upheld a decision Tuesday dismissing a lawsuit over a Romeo-area elementary school's policy creating a nut-free school. The unpublished opinion addresses a lawsuit filed by the parent of a student at Hevel Elementary School challenging the decision of Romeo Community Schools to make the elementary school a nut-free zone because of a student with life-threatening nut allergies.”

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Witness intimidation leads to longer prison term for Muskegon man

“David Jesse Hunt of Muskegon is headed back to prison for threatening a witness who was expected to testify against him, then shooting bullets into her empty car. Muskegon County Circuit Judge Timothy G. Hicks on July 26 ordered Hunt, 27, to prison for between three years seven months and 20 years for witness intimidation by committing a crime or threatening to kill or injure the witness.”

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press: Appeal denied in case of Livonia police officer's death in Walled Lake

“The Michigan Supreme Court has denied an appeal from the man convicted of second-degree murder in the shooting death of a Livonia police officer in Walled Lake. Terry Neil Bowling was convicted of second-degree murder in the 2011 shooting death of Larry Nehasil.”

[Full story](#)

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Another View: Review of criminal sentences wise move

"Michigan has started a much-needed review of its criminal sentencing guidelines — one that will hopefully chart a path for more efficient use of the state's limited resources. The state has struggled to balance public safety with punishment and rehabilitation efforts that produce good results."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Inn of Court membership deadline is August 9

"The deadline to apply for membership in the third season of the Washtenaw County American Inn of Court is Aug. 9. The Inn of Court is sponsored by the Washtenaw County Bar Association, the Washtenaw Judiciary and the Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Ann Arbor campus. It is open to all WCBA members and offers a chance to work hand-in-hand with veteran attorneys and members of the Washtenaw County judiciary."

[Full story](#)